

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are currently pending in the present application. Claim 12 has been added. No new matter has been added.

Claim Objections:

Claims 4-6, 8, and 9 are objected to because of informalities. More specifically, Claim 4 has been amended to change “surface(s)” to “surface” and to change “covering(s)” to “at least one covering,” as requested by the Examiner.

Claim 5 has been amended to change “recess(es) (9, 10) is/are” to “at least one recess (9, 10) is,” as requested by the Examiner.

Claim 6 has been amended to change “coverings” to “at least one covering,” as requested by the Examiner.

Claim 8 has been amended to change “coverings” to “at least one covering”; “is/are” to “is”; and “struts” to be “strut,” as requested by the Examiner.

Claim 9 has been amended to change “covering(s) (14, 15) is/are” to “at least one covering (14, 15) is,” as requested by the Examiner.

The objections to claims 4-6, 8, and 9 are believed overcome and should be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §112:

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. More specifically, the Examiner states that “Claim 7 is not clearly understood because it is unclear if the phrase ‘especially side safety catches’ is a required limitation or an example.”

Claim 7 has been amended to delete “especially side safety catches”. Accordingly, the rejection has been overcome and should be withdrawn. Therefore, claim 7, which depends from allowable claim 1, is allowable for at least the same reasons claim 1 is allowable.

Allowable Subject Matter:

The Examiner has indicated that claims 1-3, 10, and 11 are allowed; claims 4-6, 8, and 9 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the objections; and claim 7 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under 35 USC 112, 2nd paragraph.

The Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter. As discussed above, claims 4-6, 8, and 9 have been amended to overcome the objections. Therefore, the objections of claims 5-6, 8, and 9 are overcome and should be withdrawn. As also discussed above, claim 7 has been amended to overcome the rejection under 35 USC 112, 2nd paragraph. Therefore, the rejection of claim 7 is overcome and should be withdrawn. Accordingly, claims 4-9 are also in condition for allowance.

New Claims:

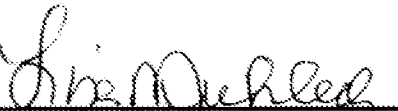
Claim 12 has been added to depend from allowable claim 7. Support for claim 12 can be found in paragraph [0023] and in Figures 2-5. No new matter has been added.

CONCLUSION

All rejections and objections having been addressed, it is therefore respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 9/21/09

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